

Meeting Minutes - Offsite Retreat Public Water Access Committee

Saturday, May 7th 2016 From: 9:30am to 12 noon

Location: Off-site: Wright residence

Co-Chairs:

Elise Wright, Bitsy Ostenson

Minutes:

Elise Wright

Attendees:

Fred Grimm, Thomas Hudson, Bitsy Ostenson, Frank Ostrander, Greg Spils, Roger van

Gelder, Elise Wright Excused: John Brownlow, Marci Burkel

Meeting called to order at 9:30am

Our goals were:

- 1) to consider new infrastructure projects ahead of the Council's biennial budget discussions, and
- 2) to get a start on developing our 2017 Work Plan.

The capital project on which everyone agrees is the need for a new and/or improved boat ramp at an additional location. Accordingly, we added "Advocate development of additional Boat Ramp facilities on Bainbridge Island" to our list of existing list of Infrastructure Projects. We also discussed possible locations and strategies.

Under Framework Management we are considering "Review City policies regarding protection of road ends and harbors." This topic arose in part because of the recent newspaper articles chronicling the circumnavigation of the island by a couple on fat-tire (snow) bikes using the beaches. We'd also like to learn more about hazards to small boat navigation posed by commercial shellfish operations and by the proliferation of apparently unused buoys in our harbors.

Under Stewardship, we added "Protect and restore, if needed, the integrity of the Road Ends" in recognition of the need for strategies regarding undeveloped and encroached-upon sites.

Also under Stewardship we discussed Code Enforcement - regarding buoys, speed limits, boat licensing, shellfish growing and bikes on beaches - as a process. We want to understand what role, if any, the Access Committee and Stewards have to play in that process, and what can be done to assist the City's Code Enforcement Officers.

We discussed the progress the City's made with signs and survey markers, and the benches well on their way to being built and installed. We intend to include more weekend site tours to keep assessing current conditions and noting repairs or improvements needed at the road ends from Lofgren south (numbers 6 upward).

John Brownlow, Greg Spils and Frank Ostrander will be primarily responsible for updating our Work Plan. All of us will contribute details of the "ways and means" to achieve our goals as their work proceeds.

Our last topic had to do with the difficulties of communicating using the CoBI email system. We will be exploring ways to make this easier, and may need some long overdue training from the IT department.

Meeting closed at 12 noon

Elise Wright/Bitsy Ostenson, Co-Chairs

Date for June 2016